

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 19 and 27 are herein amended as follows:

Claim 19. (Three Times Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders associated with a bar loading system, the advancement device having a mechanism for the individual release of the bars and a bar pusher for pushing a bar into a spindle of an automatic lathe, the bar pusher having a collet which is adapted to receive a rear end of the released bar, the advancement device comprising:

a carriage having grip elements for the bar to be advanced, said carriage being slidably actuated between an initial position, where said grip elements are actuated so as to grip the bar deposited thereon and a final position, where said bar is released by said grip elements after inserting the bar in the collet and into the spindle of the automatic lathe,

said bar pusher being supported for translatable movement and said bar pusher being aligned with the deposited bar when said carriage is in the final position,

and said bar pusher being configured to be locked and actuated between an offset position and a position where said pusher is aligned with the bar deposited on supporting elements.

Claim 27. (Twice Amended) A device for the advancement of bars in automatic loaders associated with a bar loading system, the advancement device having a mechanism for the individual release of the bars and a bar pusher for pushing a bar into a spindle of an automatic lathe, the bar pusher having a collet which is adapted to receive a rear end of the released bar, the advancement device comprising:

a carriage having grip elements for the bar to be advanced, said carriage being slidable so as to advance the bar end into the collet; and

said bar pusher being aligned with the deposited bar when said carriage is in a final position

and said bar pusher being configured to be locked and actuated between an offset position and the position where said pusher is aligned with a bar deposited on supporting elements.